



The Empty Envelope

Ron Roy, John Steven Gurney (Illustrator)

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E is for Envelope...Dink keeps getting envelopes in the mail addressed to "D. Duncan." But the letters inside all start with "Dear Doris" and don't make any sense! Josh and Ruth Rose think someone's playing a trick on Dink. But Dink is sure there's more to it than that, especially after Doris herself shows up and demands her letters!

From the Trade Paperback edition.

The Empty Envelope Details

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ISBN : 9780679890546

Author : Ron Roy , John Steven Gurney (Illustrator)

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Genre : Mystery, Childrens, Chapter Books, Fiction

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From Reader Review The Empty Envelope for online ebook

Katie Merkel says

This may be my favorite book in the series so far. There was nice tension, and I really liked how the kids problem solved on their own, but turned to the police when they knew the problem was out of their league.

Meghan VanDoorne says

This is a mystery book part of the A to Z Mystery series. I would recommend this story to 2nd-4th grade readers. What is unique about this story is that it is a chapter book but also has illustrations inside. It is a fun and engaging read! I found this book by looking at a book trailer online!!

Alison says

My six-year-old daughter says:

I liked it because they find an envelope that's empty. It's a pretty good book.

My four-year-old son says:

I wanted all the stars. I liked the part where they found the envelope.

Mom says:

This one was slow compared to other A-Z Mysteries. Clearly my kids enjoyed it, but it was "meh" for me. But I'm not the target audience, so my opinion doesn't matter ;)

Julie says

Lauryn says she wonders what is in her vacuum cleaner after reading this book. She thought the thief was someone else was the thief—this book is tricky! Lots of red herrings!

Blue says

[given how the mystery specifically found the trio (hide spoiler)]

Sydney Nikitas says

Genre: Mystery

Unique Feature: Although I didn't notice the unique combination when I read A to Z Mysteries during my

own childhood, I did come to realize this time that while The Empty Envelope is formatted as a chapter book, it also includes a number of whole-page illustrations as well -- a mixing of two features that you don't often see!

Appropriate Grade(s): 2nd-4th

Brooke Knuppenburg says

For a children's mystery story, I think Ron Roy does a great job. I found this book via Scholastic, which said it was for 3rd grade. I am not sure I would offer it to my 3rd graders. I felt like there was a lot of background knowledge given, that maybe some students would be unaware about. It may be a better class or group read than individual. Some students may fly through it and get nothing out, if they are unaware of how investigations work. It was also a little predictable, which I wish was not the case!

Hayley Jacobs says

Genre: Mystery

Unique Feature: This book is part of a series, and though I vaguely read some of them while I was in elementary school, I had never read this one. I realized reading this that a great feature of this theory book is that thought this wasn't the first book in the series and I had no recollection of what happened within the series, I wasn't confused which is great for students interested in a particular set of books, but may have to wait to get the next one such as if they were waiting for someone to return it to the library. Another feature I loved about the text is the humor used to engage students in the text.

Grade(s): 3-5

Date Completed: 04/04/18

Dolly says

This is a fun mystery in the A to Z Mysteries series that involves research at the library! Will clever detectives Dink, Josh and Ruth Rose figure out the mystery in time to catch the crooks? Great story to read aloud.

Rusty Wade says

was a good book

Talia says

Dink starts getting all these mysterious envelopes accidentally sent to him. Everyone thinks it's just a misunderstanding, until the actual owner shows up on Dink's doorstep, demanding her letters back! Maybe

there is something going on with the envelopes...

I actually really liked this one, and the detective work shown by the kids is pretty cool. Plus, I am always a fan whenever a book character says, "I want to know more about this topic, let's go to the library!"

Alina Borger says

Listened to the audiobook with our kids during our Christmas travels. 7yo LOVES the A to Z mysteries and almost 9yo loved them when he was 7, too. He pretends not to like them now because he's "read them all," but is awfully engaged when the audio book is on. I chose to "report" this as read to Goodreads because it (along with the Haunted Hotel) is probably one of my favorites. I liked the envelopes and the coded messages and what it shows kids about cleverness. Obviously, the characterization/writing is never going to be award winning in any of these books--and that's not the point. I think the main impact is that mysteries like these (for me it was Nancy Drew) teach kids how to read, how to see/understand plot--to see the foreshadowing and follow the clues. So I say Bravo to A to Z Mysteries!

Snooka L. says

I love this book its a great read. Its about Dink, Josh and Ruth Rose finding an envelope that seemed weird. I read this book a long time ago and still remember it. I enjoyed this series even though it was a short read.

Deepthi Herga says

My 7 - year old has finished the entire set of the A to Z mysteries (including all the super editions). I started reading them because I wanted to find out how good these mysteries are and after I started, I finished the entire set myself. This will be a common review for all the books in the set (so please forgive me if you see this repeated under another book).

First of all, the mystery part of the book is fairly simple for an adult, but I can see how it can keep a kid engrossed. The characters are playful, around the same age as my kid now, so are very relatable. Yes, there are some characteristics which can be a little irritating, but they didn't really bother me too much as to take away from the stories. The other con is that these little kids are left unmonitored in many of their adventures (I am not a helicopter parent, but it felt a little strange, especially when they are out of the country altogether).

That being said, now what I loved about the stories -

- 1) Most of the stories are based in different cities, and sometimes different countries, so the travel perspective is amazing. We, as a family, love to travel and every time the kids in the books traveled somewhere it made the story more exciting to me (as well as my kid). My kid had comments on how they went to Key West and later Washington D.C "just like us".
- 2) There are strong characters of both genders, the villains are of different genders as well, so the

stereotyping is considerably less (there was a female pilot in one of the books that stood out to me) and I love it that girls reading the books have some good role models. I would always like more female strong characters shown ofcourse :).

I'm sure my kids will be enjoying many more of the author's books in the future :)

Trisha says

My daughter and I are sharing this series as audio books together in the car. On occasion, she invites the whole family into the story and tries to keep them updated and make them guess who did it.

This one was ingenious. My daughter and I spent quite a bit of time talking about the why's and how's someone would do this - and how you can hide and decode secret messages. My 9 year old knew a lot more ways than I did! How fun! books that inspire kids always get two thumbs up from me.

I can't wait to continue the series!
